

Murray, Chester David, 1850-1926

Dec. 1919 - June 1920
(068)

The Board of Governors of the University of Toronto take very great satisfaction in expressing to Mr. Chester Massey and his fellow members of the Massey Foundation their gratitude at having formally received the Hart House from them on November eleventh, 1919, when it was opened by His Excellency the Duke of Devonshire. This magnificent gift, which in its completion far surpasses the original design offered to the Board of Governors, has during the eight years of its erection, partly through the generous scope allowed to the skill of the Architects, partly through the patient oversight and discriminating judgment of Mr. Vincent Massey, grown into a building unique in the academic world. By reason of its solidity, its beauty, and its adaptability to its purpose it will in the service of this University remind succeeding generations of the munificence of its founders, whose prayer the Governors hope will be fulfilled, that within Hart House the members of the several Colleges and Faculties will be drawn into a common fellowship, and that the teacher and the student, the graduate and the undergraduate will gather into a true society in the manifold activities of body, mind and spirit.

December 11th, 1919.

April 10th, 1920

Chester B. Massey, Esq.,
519 Jarvis Street,
Toronto.

Dear Mr. Massey:

I have pleasure in informing you that at a meeting of the Senate held last night it was unanimously agreed to offer you the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws in recognition of the eminent service you have rendered this Province and this City through your benefactions, and especially this University through the gift of Hart House.

The Convocation at which the honorary degrees will be conferred will take place on Thursday evening, June 3rd, at eight o'clock, when I hope you will find it possible to be present as the degree is not conferred in absence.

Yours sincerely,

President.

April 30th, 1920

C. H. Massey, Esq.,
519 Jarvis Street,
Toronto.

Dear Mr. Massey:

I am very glad to know that you are to be with us for the Convocation on June 3rd at which the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws is to be conferred upon you. Will you be kind enough to provide yourself with cap and gown? The University, however, will supply the hood proper to the degree which will be given to you.

The degree will be conferred on the evening of Thursday, June 3rd.

Yours sincerely,

President.

June 4th, 1920

C. D. Massey, Esq.,
Jarvis Street,
Toronto.

My dear Mr. Massey:

We all regretted very much that you were unable to be present at the Convocation last night to receive the honorary degree, and your name, when presented, was greeted with a great deal of enthusiasm. I am sure you would have appreciated the marks of esteem.

I am enclosing a copy of the words I used in introducing you.

At a meeting of the Senate held on Wednesday night authority was given to have the degree conferred in your house in Toronto at some convenient time. This was due to the fact that your illness prevented your being present. I will be glad to make arrangements to have this done formally when you find you are well enough to receive those who may come to present the degree. Hoping you will soon be better,
Yours sincerely,

President.

